

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LOME 00412 242206Z

64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 241910Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 278

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COTONOU NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LOME 0412

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR, NI, TO

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN PLOT TO HARM US-NIGERIAN
RELATIONS

REF: LOME 411 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DELIVERED BY WALK-IN MBENDSE CANINBLE
TO EMBASSY FEBRUARY 24. QUOTE EXCELLENCE,

1. I SHOULD HAVE LIKED TO CONTACT YOU PERSONALLY AT THE CHANCERY,
BUT FOR MY OWN SECURITY AND ALSO WITH THE AIM TO PRESERVE THE GOOD
IMAGE OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN TOGO, I PREFER ACT WITH
DISCRETION. I THEN URGE YOUR EXCELLENCE TO DO THE BEST, SO
THAT WE MAY CONCLUDE THE MATTER OF MY VISIT WITHOUT DELAY,
AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED
STATES IN TIME.

2. YOUR EXCELLENCE WOULD NOT WONDER ABOUT MY UNEXPECTED AND
UNCONVENTIONAL VISIT AFTER READING THIS LETTER OF SELF INTRO-
DUCTION. AS FAR AS OUR INTERESTS CAN JOIN, IT IS NORMAL THAT
SOMEBODY OF MY BELIEVES AND IDEOLOGICAL STAND MAY ALSO
COLLABORATE, AT LEAST ONCE, WITH THE USA REPRESENTATIVES.
HOWEVER, MY ACTION IS FAR TO BE ANY KIND OF ALORUISM.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LOME 00412 242206Z

3. I AM A CONGOLESE NATIONAL. I HAIL FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

OF CONGO. AS YOU MAY KNOW, I AM RESOLUTELY OPPOSED TO THE US POLICY IN ALL FIELD. I AM ENGAGED IN THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, TILL ITS TOTAL DEFEAT. BUT, TODAY, I AM GOING TO RENDER A VERY, VERY GREAT SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THERE IS NO CONTRADICTION, AT ALL.

4. I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF A FELLOW COUNTRYMAN TOO. HE IS A REPORTER WITH THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE PARTI CONGOLAIS DU TRAVAIL (PCT), THE WEEKLY "ETUMBA" (STRUGGLE). IF THIS CAN INTEREST YOU, HE IS THE NEPHEW OF COMRADE MARIEN NGOUABI, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PCT AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CONGO. I AM MYSELF A LEADING MEMBER OF THE UNION DE LA JEUNESSE SOCIALISTE CONGOLAISE (UJSC), AND I AM WORKING WITH THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY OF MY COUNTRY, AS A TRANSLATER, ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIVISION.

5. WE HAVE BEEN IN A TOUR OF SOME WEST AFRICAN STATES SINCE JANUARY, THIS YEAR. AFTER A TWO-WEEKS EVENTFUL STAY IN NIGERIA WE LEFT THAT COUNTRY IN DRAMATIC CONDITIONS ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1976, AND WE HARDLY SUCCEEDED TO REACH COTONOU, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN. AFTER TWO DAYS IN THAT AFRICAN CAPITAL, WE WERE OBLIGED TO FLY TO LOME, THE ROAD BORDER BEING SAID TO BE CLOSED. FROM HERE, WE WENT TO ACCRA, GHANA. THERE WE ARE THE GUESTS OF THE AFRICAN YOUTH COMMAND (AYC) AND OF THE TRADE UNION CONGRESS (TUC) OF GHANA. NEXT SATURDAY, WE WILL CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA, TO GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAP-VERT.

6. WE SHOULD HAVE CONTACTED THE USA REPRESENTATIVES IN ACCRA, BUT WE CAN'T GO TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, IN GHANA. OUR HOSTS WOULD NOT LIKE SUCH AN ACTION, AT ALL. AS THEY KNOW THAT WE CONGOLESE HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE YANKEES. WE DECIDED THEN TO CONTACT THE USA PEOPLE IN THE NEAREST CAPITAL, LOME. THIS WILL BE OUT OF SUSPICION. AS I AM BETTER IN ENGLISH THAN MY FELLOW COMRADE, I AM THE ONE WHO HAS TRAVELED TO TOGO. HE SHALL COVER MY ABSENCE. ANYWAY, NOBODY AMONG OUR HOSTS WILL SUSPECT ME TO HAVE BEEN AS FAR AS LOME. I AM NOT IN A TRAVELING CONDITION AT ALL.

7. THE MATTER WHICH BRINGS ME HERE TODAY IS SERIOUS. I CAN'T
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 LOME 00412 242206Z

TRAVEL FROM GHANA TO TOGO FOR JOKING, AND WITH ALL THE RISKS, THAT JOURNEY CONTAINS. I AM HERE TO SPEAK LOUD ABOUT THE LAST EVENTS IN NIGERPA. OUT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS LEFT-WING ORGANISATIONS IN NIGERIA, SOME REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS OF THE LEFT WHO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO NIGERIA FOR THE "COUP" COVERAGE (YES, I AM NOT JOKING), OUT OF SOME MANIPULATED SOLDIERS AND JUNIOR OFFICERS, OUT OF THE MASLER MINDERS OF THE COUP, I MEAN THE TRUE POWER BEHIND THE COUP, MY FELLOW COMRADE

AND I ARE THE SOLE PEOPLE TO KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

8. WE HAVE THE MATERIAL EVIDENCES, NOTES AND FILMS, DECLAR ACTIONS OF SOME INVOLVED PEOPLE. I THINK IT IS TIME FOR THE WORLD TO KNOW THE PLAIN TRUTH. BUT KNOW? THAT IS WHY I AM HERE. I DID NOT COME TO MEET CIA PEOPLE, BECAUSE THE CIA IS A MYTH. WE ALSO IN CONGO, WE KNOW HOW THE "CREATE" THE SPECTRUM OF THIS CIA. FOR ME THE CIA DOES NOT EXIST. I COME HERE TO MEET USA REPRESENTATIVES, I MEAN PEOPLE WHO ARE GENUINELY COMMITTED TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

9. THE COUP IN NIGERIA WAS ORGANIZED BY SOVIET DIPLOMATS AND LEFT-WING GROUPS IN NIGERIA. THE "COUP" WAS PLANNED TO FAIL OF COURSE, AND THE RESPONSIBILITY PUT ON THE USA AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS. UNFORTUNATELY, FOR THE PLANNERS, SOME PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION TO KILL (REALLY) THE HEAD OF STATE. EVEN SO, THE SOVIET AND THEIR LOCAL FOLLOWERS ARE TRYING TO PRESENT THE UNITED STATES AS THE MASTERMIND OF THE COUP.

10. WE HAVE MATERIAL EVIDENCES THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY, THE GAMCA, THE OSMA, THE AYC-NIGERIA, THE "MOVEMENT" AND THE SOVIET MANIPULATED WING OF THE NUNS HAVE PLANNED THE COUP. WE HAVE MATERIAL EVIDENCES THAT ON FEBRUARY 9, 1976, TWO SOVIET DIPLOMATS AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE HELD A MEETING IN HOTEL DE EXECUTIVE, YABA, TO PREPARE THE "MARCH AFTER THE FAILURE OF THE COUP." THE MEETING WAS CONTINUED THE NEXT DAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1976. MY FELLOW COMRADE AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS OF THE LEFT WERE INVITED.

11. WE HAVE THE EVIDENCE THAT, HOURS BEFORE THE BEGINING OF THE DRAMA, THOSE PRESSMEN WERE ON THE SPOT, AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOVIET DIPLOMATS. MY FELLOW COMRADE WAS AMONG THOSE RE-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 LOME 00412 242206Z

PORTERS. HE HAS SNAPPED ALL THE EVENTS WITH HIS CAMERA, EVEN THE DEAD BODY OF THE HEAD OF STATE. WE HAVE THE FILMS...

12. WE HAVE THE EVIDENCE THAT THE CORRESPONDANT OF TASS NEWS AGENCY WAS ON THE SPOT, BEFORE THE BEGINING AND HE RAN AWAY WHEN HE SAW THE BODY OF THE HEAD OF STATE. MY FELLOW HAVE PICTURED HIM ON THE SCENE AND WE HAVE THE EVIDENCES.

12. NOT WILLING TO CARRY THOSE DANGEROUS MATERIALS WITH US, WE HAVE DECIDED TO DESTROY THEM. THEN WE DECIDED TO MAKE PROFIT OF THOSE PRECIOUS MATERIALS. THE RIGHT PEOPLE ARE THE NIGERIA'S DIPLOMATS. BUT MOST OF THEM ARE NOW SOVIET MANIPULATED. THE VICTIM CAN ALSO TAKE IT TO CONFIRM HIS IGNORANCE OF THE CASE. WE ARE READY TO GIVE EM TO THE UNITED STATES.

13. I WOULD LIKE TO MEET SOMEBODY WHO WILL DEAL WITH ME, RIGHT NOW. I AM IN THE READING ROOM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, CONTACT ME IN THE READING ROOM OF THE CULTURAL CENTER, NOT IN AN HOTEL. BETTER HERE IN THE CULTURAL CENTER. I HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE, I MUST BE BACK TO ACCRA THIS EVENING.

14. I DO GREET YOUR EXCELLENCE - (SIGNED) END QUOTE.
RAWLS

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